GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1381
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014
REHABILITATION OF BEGGARS
Patil Shri Chandrakant Raghunath

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to ban begging in the country and to formulate a scheme for the rehabilitation of beggars; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) & (b): The States are responsible for taking necessary preventive and rehabilitative steps. As per available information, 20 States and 2 Union Territories have enacted their own anti- beggary legislation or adopted legislations enacted by other State/UTs. Presently, there is no Scheme of the Central Government on Beggary. National Consultation Meetings were held with the representatives of Central/State Governments, NGOs, Institutes and Individual Experts in the field of Beggary to discuss the issues related to Beggary. In these meetings, it was inter-alia, recommended to explore the feasibility of framing a Central Scheme for rehabilitation of Beggars. Accordingly, a Scheme for Rehabilitation of Beggars/Destitutes is under formulation.